

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 01016 191002Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

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SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 /087 W

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FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7833

INFO /AMCONSUL HONG KONG 4683

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1016

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR CH UR US JA

SUBJ: YOMIURI PRESS DELEGATION MEETINGS WITH PRC LEADERS

REF: HONG KONG 5632

1. JAPANESE EMBASSY OFFICER (YOSHIDA) HAS PROVIDED USLO WITH SOME FURTHER DETAILS OF MEETINGS MAY 15 AND 16 BETWEEN YOMIURI PRESS DELEGATION HEADED BY SHIROE HARA AND VICE PREMIER CHI TENG-KUEI, VICE FOREIGN MINISTER YU CHAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE SINO-JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION CHANG HSIANG-SHAN. READING FROM NOTES TAKEN BY THE LOCAL YOMIURI CORRESPONDENT, YOSHIDA SAID THAT AFTER SPELLING OUT THE THREE PRINCIPLES ON TAIWAN IN FAMILIAR TERMS CHI TENG-KUEI HAD STATED, "WE HAVE MORE IMPORTANT THINGS IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES THAN TAIWAN." YU CHAN SIMILARLY TOLD HARA, "THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA HAVE DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW REGARDING TAIWAN BUT WE HAVE ALSO MUCH IN COMMON." ACCORDING TO YOSHIDA NO MENTION WAS MADE IN ANY OF THESE MEETINGS TO PRESIDENT CARTER'S MAY 12 PRESS CONFERENCE.

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2. BOTH YU AND CHI DECLARED MILITANT SUPPORT FOR JAPAN IN ITS DIFFICULTIES WITH THE SOVIET UNION. YU CHAN TOLD HARA THAT "CHINA WOULD NOT STAND IDLY BY" IF JAPAN WERE THE VICTIM OF SOVIET AGGRESSION. HOWEVER, IN A LINE OF REASONING WHICH IS JAPANESE GUESTS FOUND SOMEWHAT DUBIOUS, YU SAID THAT JUST AS NORTH VIETNAM

HAD BEEN ABLE TO DEFEAT THE UNITED STATES, SO SHOULD JAPAN, A MUCH STRONGER COUNTRY, BE ABLE TO DEFEND ITSELF AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION. WHEN HARA ASKED IF YU THOUGHT THAT JAPAN SHOULD HAVE DEFENSE ARRANGEMENTS WITH CHINA SIMILAR TO THOSE IT HAS WITH THE UNITED STATES, YU REPLIED THAT THE PRC IN PRINCIPLE SUPPORTED ANY COUNTRY THAT FOUND ITSELF THE OBJECT OF FOREIGN INVASION SUCH AS ZAIRE OR CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

3. ON THE INTERNAL SIDE YOSHIDA SAID THAT THE GROUP WAS TOLD BY CHANG HSIANG-SHAN THAT A CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM, PARTY CONGRESS AND NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS WOULD TAKE PLACE WITHIN 1977 IN ORDER TO RESOLVE PROBLEMS CREATED BY THE GANG OF FOUR. CHANG SAID THAT THE NPC WOULD "SERVE TO CONSOLIDATE OUR LEADERSHIP AND SOLVE THE QUESTION OF NAMING A NEW PREMIER AND A NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE NPC."
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